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Chief, Eastern Europe
Attention: []
Chief of Station, Vienna

30 April 1952

Operational/REDCAP

- Grallspace: Search by Austrian Customs and Detention by
Austrian Criminal Police in Salzburg

Reference: SLZ/331 (not sent Fran), VIEA-7388

1. On 15 April 1952 [] arrived in Salzburg to debrief
Grallspace in reference to his detention by the Austrian Criminal police on
14 April 1952.

2. After the debriefing, the details of which follow, [] drove
Grallspace to the Bad Reichenhall, Germany railroad station where Grallspace
entrained to Munich. Grallspace was advised to contact [] upon arriving
in Munich. He was also advised that it would be necessary to secure new and
adequate documentation before he could proceed to Vienna.

Results of the Debriefing.

3. Grallspace arrived at the Salzburg railroad station at 1230 hours on
14 April 1952. After the German customs agent had inspected his luggage,
Grallspace placed a Walther automatic pistol, which he had previously carried
concealed in his pocket, in the suitcase and proceeded to the Austrian customs
desk. (NOTE: While going through the German customs two different customs
agents perform the inspection—one agent checks the documents at the same time
that another agent checks the luggage. The agent who inspects the luggage
does not necessarily know the type of documents on which the owner of the lug-
gage is traveling).

4. Grallspace then proceeded to the Austrian customs inspection point
where he presented his documents. Shortly thereafter, the customs inspector
began to question Grallspace as to where he had procured such poor documenta-
tion. Grallspace informed him that the documents were procured through regul-
lar channels and that he was a German merchant traveling to Vienna on business.
The customs inspector then made the following comments concerning Grallspace's
documents:

a. If Grallspace was a German national, why didn't he secure
a regular Reisepass, which is available to all German nationals
traveling abroad?

b. Why should the Occupation Authorities issue a TTD to a
German national when a Reisepass issued by the German Government
can be obtained?

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c. The date of issue of the TTD was sometime in 1950, almost two years ago, yet the document appeared new and unused. It was clean and contained no visas, indicating that it had not been used up to the present time, a very unusual circumstance.

d. Grallspace's occupation was listed as "merchant" on the TTD and the Kennkarte, but when Grallspace changed German DM to OS, the following entry was made in the TTD:

"Nichtgeschäftliche Reise
im Rahmen des Jahreshöchstbetrages S 625 in Gegenwart
von DM 100.
Ausgegeben München den 4.4.1952."

If, in fact, Grallspace was a German merchant traveling on business to Austria, why did the German authorities place such a small limit on the amount of DM that he could exchange? (Perhaps an official-looking letter from some firm would help support this legend).

5. The customs inspector stated to Grallspace, "During the war I worked for the "Abwehr" and documentation which was issued to me was much more genuine. In my opinion the only people who travel with documents like these are people employed by American CIC."

6. Thereupon Grallspace was informed that he and his baggage must be searched. He was conducted into a room where the search was made and the weapon was discovered. As soon as the weapon was found, Grallspace was turned over to an Austrian Criminal Policeman, who placed Grallspace under arrest in a detention room at the railroad station. The customs inspector turned Grallspace's documents, suitcase, and weapon over to the policeman.

7. The Criminal policeman immediately began to interrogate Grallspace on the data which was in the TTD. Grallspace answered everything correctly and refused to answer any other questions, stating that he wished to call a "Herr Fischer" at Salzburg 3546. (He furnished the name and telephone number to [redacted] for Grallspace's contact in Salzburg). After questioning Grallspace for approximately fifteen minutes in reference to the data on his documents, the policeman called the above number. About forty minutes later an unknown person (a CIC agent) came to the office, signed some papers, and took Grallspace into his custody.

8. [redacted] will forward a report concerning Grallspace's release by CIC.

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